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REGIONAL OFFICE FOR THE Americas

# THE MULTI-SECTORAL RESPONSE TO NCDs: PAHO perspective

Dr. Adriana Blanco Marquizo  
Risk Factors and Nutrition Unit/ Department of NCDs and Mental Health  
PAHO/WHO

*Strengthening the multi-sectoral response to NCDs in the Caribbean.  
National NCD Commissions  
Bridgetown Barbados June 5<sup>th</sup> 2015*

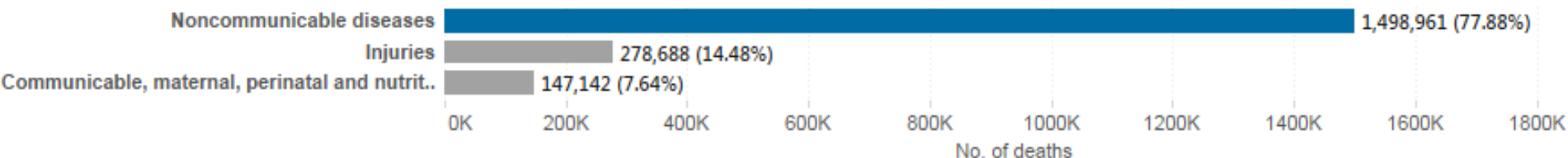
# NCD epidemic

## Deaths due to Noncommunicable Diseases, Countries of the Americas

Select Sex: All      Select Age Group: 30-69      Select Country: All      Select year: 2012

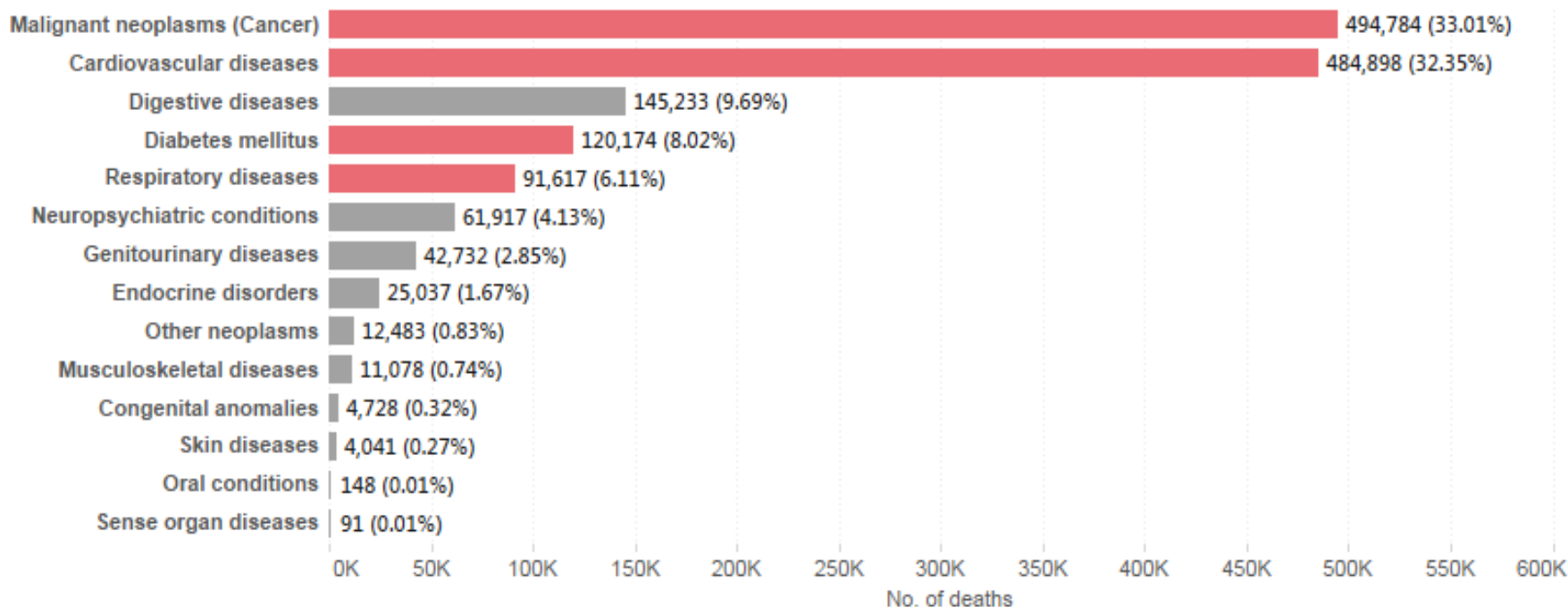
### Number of deaths by groups of causes

Blue bar represents Noncommunicable diseases (our target causes of death)



### Deaths due to Noncommunicable diseases, breakdown by NCDs subgroups of causes of death

Red bars represents target NCDs causes of death



# NCD – economic dimension

- “Costs of inaction” (from 2011 to 2025): **US\$ 7 trillion**;
- **Costs of taking action** (implementing “best buys”)
  - **US\$ 1 per capita/per year** in low income countries
  - **US\$ 1.5 per capita/per year** in lower-middle income countries;
  - **US\$ 3 per capita/per year** in upper middle income countries

# Man-made & preventable





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NEW LOOSE CHANGE MENU 



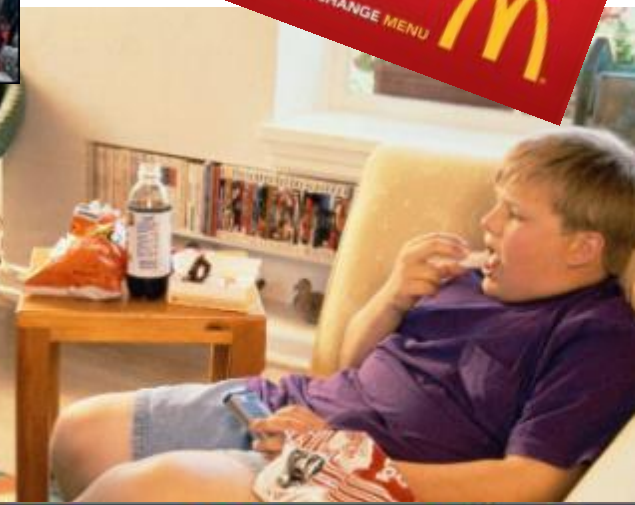
Virginia Slims are slimmer than the fat cigarettes men smoke. And rightly so.



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# PARADIGM SHIFT



# **Calls for multi-sectoral action**

- **Port of Spain declaration: Uniting to stop the epidemic of chronic NCDs (2007);**
- **WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control**
- **Political Declaration of the High-level Meeting of the General Assembly on the Prevention and Control of Non-communicable Diseases (2011);**
- **Sustainable Development Goals;**
- **WHO Global Action Plan on NCDs (GMF)**
- **PAHO Global Action Plan on NCDs**
- **PAHO Plan of Action for the Prevention of Obesity in Children and Adolescents**

# Port of Spain Declaration (2007)

- **“That we strongly encourage the establishment of National Commissions on NCDs or analogous bodies to plan and coordinate the comprehensive prevention and control of chronic NCDs”;**



# UNHLM Political Declaration (2011)

- 36. Recognize that effective NCD prevention and control require leadership and **multisectoral approaches** for health at the government level, including, as appropriate, **health in all policies** and **whole-of-government approaches** across such sectors as health, education, energy, agriculture, sports, transport, communication, urban planning, environment, labour, employment, industry and trade, finance, and social and economic development;

# Sustainable Development Goals

**Synergies with other goals and with sustainable development goals overall:**

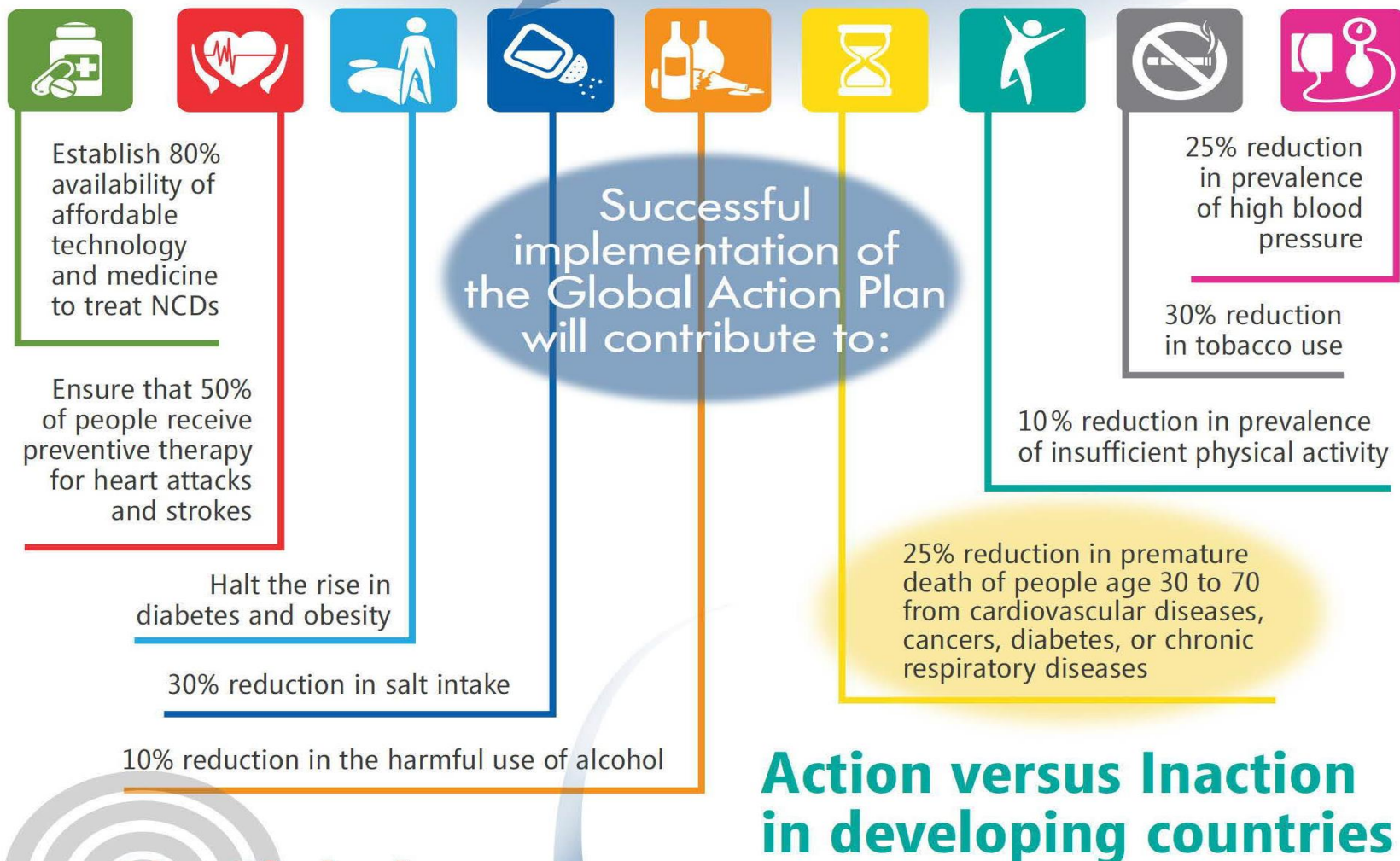
**Positive synergies between health and the other sectors, and avoidance of contradictions among sector goals and strategies, might be achieved by framing the goals in such a way that attainment requires policy coherence and shared solutions across multiple sectors**

Source: Issues Brief 10: HEALTH AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT/ Available at:  
[https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/1554TST\\_compendium\\_issues\\_briefs\\_rev1610.pdf](https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/1554TST_compendium_issues_briefs_rev1610.pdf)

# WHO Global Action Plan on NCDs

## Global Monitoring Framework

### Nine Targets for 2025



# WHO “Best buys”

**There are 15 very cost-effective interventions described by WHO to face NCDs, the implementation of the majority of them resides outside the health sector. (i.e. taxes, restrictions on advertisement, promotion and sponsorship, etc).**



# PAHO PLAN OF ACTION FOR THE PREVENTION AND CONTROL OF NONCOMMUNICABLE DISEASES

## *Strategic Lines of Action:*

### *Multisectoral policies and partnerships for NCD prevention and control:*

- Build and promote **multisectoral action** with relevant sectors of government and society, including integration into development, academic, and economic agendas.

# PAHO PLAN OF ACTION FOR THE PREVENTION AND CONTROL OF NONCOMMUNICABLE DISEASES (cont)

## *Specific Objective 1.1:*

Promote integration of NCD prevention **in sectors outside of health**, at the government level, and conducted in partnership with a wide range of nonstate actors...

# PAHO PLAN OF ACTION FOR THE PREVENTION AND CONTROL OF NONCOMMUNICABLE DISEASES (cont)

## *Specific Objective 1.2:*

Strengthen or develop national health plans based on **multisectoral approaches**, with specific actions, targets, and indicators geared to at least the four priority NCDs and the four main risk factors.

# PAHO PLAN OF ACTION FOR THE PREVENTION AND CONTROL OF NONCOMMUNICABLE DISEASES (cont)

## *Actions for Member States*

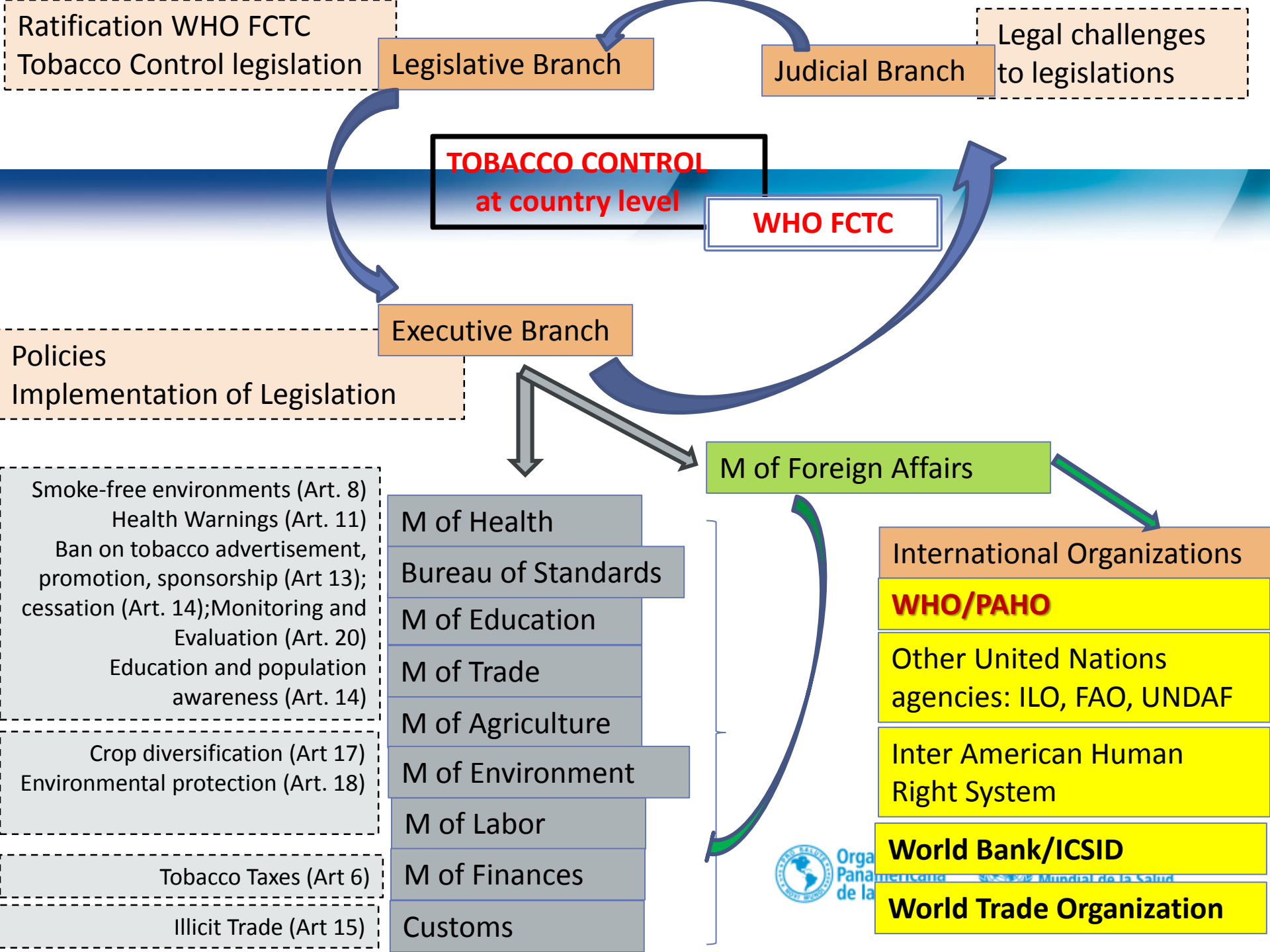
- (a) Establish or strengthen, as appropriate, national and subnational mechanisms ... to engage the **multiple sectors within government** and other public and private stakeholders more widely ...
- (f) Integrate prevention and control of NCDs in the national **development agenda**, where relevant, respecting the country context and priorities and emphasizing the link between NCDs and sustainable development.



# PAHO PLAN OF ACTION FOR THE PREVENTION AND CONTROL OF NONCOMMUNICABLE DISEASES (cont)

## *Actions for PASB*

(a) Continue to promote, establish, support and strengthen engagement or collaborative partnerships that enable and leverage collaboration to **catalyze multisectoral approaches** at the regional, subregional, and national levels in a harmonized manner



# Tools / Processes

- **Global Coordination Mechanism on NCDs**
- **UN Interagency Task Force on NCDs**
- **Inter American Task Force on NCDs**



# Tools / Processes (cont.)

- PAHO Plan of Action Health in all Policies
- PAHO Guide on Health Impact Assessment
- Guidelines for integration of NCDs in the UNDAFs



Provisional Agenda Item 4.8

CD53/10, Rev. 1  
8 September 2014  
Original: English

## PLAN OF ACTION ON HEALTH IN ALL POLICIES

### Introduction

1. The purpose of this document is to define clear steps for implementation of the Health in All Policies (HiAP) approach in the countries of the Region of the Americas. This Plan of Action corresponds to the World Health Organization (WHO) Health in All Policies Framework for Country Action (1), developed in January 2014 in a coordinated effort with countries in the Region of the Americas. The Plan contains strategic lines of action and indicators for the period 2014-2019, in accordance with the objectives outlined in the PAHO Strategic Plan 2014-2019 (2).

### Background

2. HiAP is one approach to improving health and promoting well-being. As defined in the 2013 Helsinki Statement on Health in All Policies, it is "an approach to public policies across sectors that systematically takes into account the health implications of decisions, seeks synergies, and avoids harmful health impacts in order to improve population health and health equity" (3). Core features of HiAP include a strong foundation of human rights and social justice with a strong focus on policy-making. Application of HiAP involves identifying opportunities for policy development across sectors with potential implications for health and health equity, assessing potential impacts, and then advocating and negotiating for changes. Long-term vision and sustained efforts are needed.

3. The 2011 Rio Political Declaration on Social Determinants of Health and the 2012 Rio+20 outcome document ("The Future We Want") of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development recognize that governments are responsible for the health of their populations (4, 5). The principles developed in the 1978 Declaration of





# Challenges

- **Accountability: Goals and targets;**
- **Governance:**
  - **Stewardship from MoH;**
  - **Strengthening the synergies with other sectors;**
  - **Help to promote the other sector's agenda, without imposing the health agenda;**
- **Individual responsibility vs enabling settings vs the role of the State;**
- **Interference of Industry;**
- **Necessary link to development (beyond short term economic growth).**

# CONCLUSIONS

The multi-sectoral approach is needed to ensure:

- A comprehensive response that tackles the **“causes of the causes”** of the NCDs;
- **Policy coherence** among governmental sectors;
- Identification of **“common grounds”** for work;
- Strengthening of **synergies** among sectors;
- Amplification of the actions of each sector that contribute more to the **common objective**.

# Thank You

**blancoad@paho.org**